

Science

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NATIONAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY POLICY OF SRI LANKA

(as proposed by the National Science Council)

PREAMBLE:

Our small country, with its limited resources, can provide an acceptable quality of life for her people, only if every able person is afforded the opportunity of gainful employment. This can best be achieved by harnessing our resources to the optimum potential through the systematic application of science and technology. The problems that our country has faced for a very long time in the spheres of food, housing, health, education, transport and other human needs, can be solved by the effective use of science. We therefore accept that science and technology are fundamental to our country's development, and that it is only through the systematic application of science and technology that the goods and services which are required to sustain a modern society, can be provided.

Although modern science is universal in character, its application for the benefit of our people requires that we develop science within our country, using our own scientists in accordance with our needs and the resources available to us. There is no substitute for this. We recognize the fact that in a developing country such as ours, resources should be exploited so as to provide the maximum possible benefit to our people.

Therefore, firmly resolving that this national commitment shall receive the highest priority, the Government of Sri Lanka has decided that the objectives of its policy towards science and technology shall be :-

POLICY:

1. To use science as an integral part of the developmental strategy of the country and to involve scientists in the formulation of policy and in decision making at the highest levels.
2. To foster scientific activity in all its aspects and in its widest possible scope, and to maintain a vigorous drive towards self reliance in national scientific and technological capability.
3. To provide equal and adequate opportunities for all to acquire a basic education in science.

4. To ensure that our institutions of education and research will produce scientists and technologists of the highest calibre.
5. To provide our scientists and technologists with good working conditions, adequate remuneration, due recognition for their efforts and access to scientific knowledge and activity in other parts of the world.
6. To make available as widely as possible within the country, the fruits of scientific and technological activity.
7. To cultivate among our people, an appreciation of the value of science and scientific method as an indispensable part of a modern society.

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